



U.S. Department of Justice

**CHANNING D. PHILLIPS**  
**Acting United States Attorney for the**  
**District of Columbia**

Judiciary Center  
555 Fourth Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

---

## **PRESS RELEASE**

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, July 21, 2009

**For Information Contact:**

**Public Affairs**

Channing Phillips (202) 514-6933

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc>

### **Heroin Distributor Pleads Guilty To Federal Distribution Offense**

**Washington, D.C.** - Tony Harris, 53, of District Heights, Maryland, pled guilty today to Unlawful Possession with Intent to Distribute 100 Grams or More Heroin, Acting United States Attorney Channing D. Phillips announced. Harris will be sentenced by U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton in October 2009.

According to evidence presented at the plea hearing, on March 4, 2008, at approximately 5:00 p.m., while at the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> & Florida Ave, NE, Washington, D.C., MPD Officers Wayne David and Danny Walker, along with ATF Agent Shawn Arthur, were in a marked scout car when they observed Harris run a red traffic light while driving southbound on 6<sup>th</sup> Street, NE, in a gold Mercedes. Officer David conducted a traffic stop and asked the defendant for his driver's license, proof of insurance, and registration.

While providing the documents to Officer David, the defendant began to stutter and act nervously. As Officer David was conducting a WALES check of the defendant's information, Officer Walker noticed that the defendant's hands were shaking as he started to eat crackers and drink cranberry juice in his car. At this point, the defendant was asked to step out of his car because he appeared ill, and Officer Walker asked the defendant, "Are you ok?" The defendant paused for a moment and then fled from the officers, abandoning his vehicle in the street. Officer David pursued the defendant for several blocks in high traffic. However, the defendant escaped after running across six lanes of traffic on Florida Avenue, NE.

Subsequently, the vehicle was secured and an inventory search of the vehicle was conducted. On the front passenger side floorboard was a brown paper bag that contained a

clear plastic ziplock bag. This ziplock bag contained 3 bundles of a compressed brown powder substance wrapped in clear plastic. The contents of these bundles was tested by a DEA chemist and found to contain 184.6 grams of heroin. Moreover, inside the trunk of the vehicle was a cardboard box containing \$57,750.00 in cash. Mail matter was removed from the passenger compartment bearing the defendant's name and address. An arrest warrant was issued for the defendant's arrest, and he was subsequently arrested several weeks later.

In announcing the guilty verdicts, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended Metropolitan Police Department Officers Wayne David and Officer Danny Walker, along with ATF Agent Shawn Arthur, for their work on the investigation of this case. In addition, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips praised the work of Paralegal Specialist Candace Battle, who assisted in the investigation and prosecution of the case, and law clerk Robert F. Silver. Finally, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Emory V. Cole, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

###